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## 2 Dead As Flood Submerges Kaduna Communities

By Midat Joseph

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The Kaduna State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA) yesterday confirmed the death of two persons following a flood that engulfed several communities in the state.

The bodies, according to SEMA, were found in Kachia communities, Kachia LGA of the state.

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LEADERSHIP Weekend findings revealed that Rafin Guza in Kawo, Nasarawa, Kabala, Abubakar Kigo Road, Barnawa and other communities along River Kaduna were all submerged by water which destroyed crops, many houses and other valuables.

SEMA's executive secretary, Mr Ezekiel Baba-Karik, who urged the people to always follow building plans and advice from experts while building, condoled with the families of the deceased victims.

"Two persons died as a result of the flood in Kachia. Several houses and crops were also destroyed by the flood in many parts of Kaduna State. The government of Kaduna State is saddened by the incident but we are also doing our best to assuage the sufferings of the people. We sympathise with families that lost their loved ones including Alhaji Sani Abubakar who lost a son.

"We are calling on the good people of Kaduna State to make sure they follow building plans so as to avert future flood occurrences. As the rainy season intensifies, we are calling on the good people of Kaduna State to make sure their gutters are cleared," Baba-Karik said.

The SEMA boss said there was the need to reactivate local emergency management committees (LEMCs) for quick response to emergencies adding that the vice chairmen of the local government and the education secretaries be in charge of the committees.

Responding, Kachia LGA chairman, Mr Abel Daniel said he was in a retreat in Zaria when the incident happened, but had to rushed down to see things himself.

"I appreciate SEMA because this incident happened but immediately they were at the scene here. No one is praying for disaster to happen but with your experience, and as the Executive Secretary of SEMA, I know that you will take disaster management in kaduna State to a greater height. We have to invite others in the council to take you round the science and for you to condole the families that lost their love ones," the Chairman said.